REMARKS

Claim Rejections

Claims 1, 2, 5 and 8 — 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1, 2, 5 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being

anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,986,159 to Shimoji *et al.* ("Shimoji").

Addressing claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that Shimoji does not disclose or

suggest at least determining in advance a hierarchical number of said plurality of files to be

retained, and acquiring automatically and retaining said plurality of files linked by anchors

within each of said plurality of files ranging from said start file to said hierarchical number of

files by analyzing said start file, as recited in the claim.

Shimoji, as cited by the Examiner, discloses a recording mode which allows for recording

a set of still video images and a set of navigation data, which are transmitted repeatedly, into a

program data portion of the apparatus (column 47, lines 59-62). Further, the Examiner points to

Fig. 8 of Shimoji which merely illustrates a plurality of elementary streams.

Additionally, in the Response to Arguments section of the Office Action, the Examiner

cites column 55 and Fig. 29 of Shimoji as allegedly teaching a management table stored for each

program being retained which includes "storage completion" and "expiration" flags for indicating

whether or not the individual files making up the programs have been stored (Office Action,

page 2). The Examiner also refers to figure 22 of Shimoji as allegedly disclosing acquiring

automatically said plurality of files linked by anchors ranging from said start file to said

hierarchical number of files by analyzing said start file (Id).

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As disclosed by Shimoji, however, Fig. 22 illustrates a process of accumulating programs

when an instruction of accumulating the program data is not provided (column 50, lines 23-30).

Thus, Shimoji merely discloses a plurality of elementary streams which repeatedly transmit

video images and navigation data, and a management table with flags to indicate whether all files

of a program have been stored. Shimoji is, however, silent as to the above-noted claimed

features.

Neither the portions of Shimoji cited by the Examiner, nor any other portions of Shimoji,

disclose or suggest determining in advance a hierarchical number of said plurality of files to be

retained, and acquiring automatically and retaining said plurality of files linked by anchors

within each of said plurality of files ranging from said start file to said hierarchical number of

files by analyzing said start file, as claimed by Applicants. Therefore, claim 1 is not anticipated

by Shimoji.

Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over Shimoji. Claims 2, 5 and 8 contain features

similar to the features recited in claim 1 and are therefore patentable for similar reasons.

Claims 3, 4, 6, 7 and 9-12 — 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 3, 4, 6, 7 and 9-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being

unpatentable over Shimoji in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,374,404 to Brotz *et al.* ("Brotz").

The combination of Shimoji and Brotz does not disclose or suggest at least the features of

determining in advance a hierarchical number of said plurality of files to be retained, and

acquiring automatically and retaining said plurality of files linked by anchors within each of said

plurality of files ranging from said start file to said hierarchical number of files by analyzing said

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start file, which are incorporated into claims 3, 4, 6, 7 and 9-12 by virtue of their dependence from one of claims 1, 5 and 8 claims. As established above, Shimoji fails to disclose or suggest these features. Brotz does not cure the deficiencies of Shimoji.

Brotz discloses receiving and storing a current hypertext document into cache memory and replacing an old copy of the hypertext document with the current version of the hypertext document (column 11, lines 5-9). In other words, Brotz discloses a digital TV web page caching system capable of updating stored web pages which provides a page browsing experience. However, Brotz does not disclose or suggest at least the features of determining in advance a hierarchical number of said plurality of files to be retained, or acquiring a start file from a determined elementary stream, retaining said start file, and acquiring automatically said plurality of files linked by anchors ranging from said start file to said hierarchical number of files by analyzing said start file, which are deficient in Shimoji.

It would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the references as attempted by the Examiner since the attempted combination would still not result in the claimed features.

For at least the above reasons, claims 3, 4, 6, 7 and 9-12 are patentable over the combined references.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is

kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue

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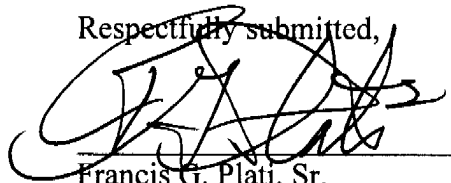
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